



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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April 9, 1992

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tony Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer *adg*

RE: Site Inspection, Western States Minerals Corp. (WSMC), Tug Mining Project, M/003/007, and Tug Exploration Project, E/003/004, Box Elder County, Utah

Date of Inspection: April 8, 1992
Time of Inspection: 1130 - 1500 MDT
Conditions: Partly cloudy, windy
Participants: Rick Lisle, WSMC; Tony Gallegos, DOGM

The purpose of this inspection was to evaluate the existing disturbances at the proposed mine site and the exploration sites. A majority of the disturbances have been in existence for several years due to a variance request by WSMC. Division personnel had not been on the site since August of 1989.

The first area visited was the approximate location of the proposed mine pit. The proposed mine area in general, is riddled with numerous drill hole markers. Markers include PVC pipe, stakes with a tire around them and stakes alone. The drill holes in the area were performed by the previous operators of the project as well as WSMC. Rick informed me that in recent years WSMC has begun the practice of plugging their holes with concrete and marking them with wooden stakes. In addition, WSMC plugged a large number of drill holes in 1991 (see MR-EPR for 1991). The most prominent feature in this area is a bulk sample trench probably excavated prior to 1989.

The shaft area was also visited. The shaft is approximately 4 x 2 feet and 10 feet deep. The shaft is lined with native timber and is probably over 15 years old.

Photographs were taken from the higher vantage points surrounding the proposed mine site to show the existing drill pads, roads, drill hole markers, etc. Additional photographs were also taken to show the proposed locations of the rock dump, leach pad, office facilities, etc.

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Rick informed me that WSMC was in the process of completing the annual report form for the mine site. I informed him that the Division was considering requiring WSMC to reclaim the mine site area since several years have now passed (since the variance for leaving the areas disturbed was granted) and WSMC still has not begun mining, as was proposed.

The proposed 1992 drill sites were also visited. Hole locations were marked with a stake and red flagging. New "cross country" trails leading to the drill sites were also marked by stakes and flagging. Several old cross country trails and old drill holes were examined and photographed. The trails ranged from one year old to several years old. Rick emphasized that they instruct the drill operators to restrict vehicle access to a drill site to one route in order to minimize the impact of the cross country travel. The trails can revegetate naturally over a period of approximately 3 years without any vehicular traffic. The grasses are the first vegetation to reappear. It seems that the sagebrush does not tolerate the vehicle traffic well, and usually dies after being run over.

The last area visited was the cross country trail which parallels the state line and fence line. This trail has been used for several years consecutively and appears as a road now. A 1992 drill site is located on this trail and the drill rig was observed while the crew set up the rig and began drilling.

In a follow-up phone call, Rick recommended that a copy of the inspection memo be forwarded to Tom Vehrs of WSMC, since Rick will no longer be with WSMC after April 10, 1992.

jb
cc: E.M. Gerrick, WSMC — *Reno W.*
Tom Vehrs, WSMC
M003007